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Thursday, March 27 - Wednesday, April 2, 2014 Advertising/Newsdesk: 01235 511700 www.oxfordjournal.co.uk

ALZHEIMER'S - A BREAKTHROUGH?

Oxford conference told memory loss linked to infection

EXPERTS believe that people with Alzheimer's who have chest and urine infections are more likely to suffer a faster decline in memory.

At a conference held in Oxford last week, researchers presented findings suggesting that inflammation in the brain, caused by systemic infections, could drive the development of Alzheimer's.

A team of researchers from the University of Southampton have been studying inflammation in mice that develop a neurodegenerative disease similar to Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) in humans. Findings show that immune cells in the brain respond as a defence mechanism against progressive damage to nerve cells. If the mice have a systemic infection at the same time, the immune cells switch roles, increasing the levels of pro-inflammatory molecules in the brain.

"The findings mirror what we are observing in people with Alzheimer's disease in the clinic," said Prof Hugh Perry, who led the research.

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By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

"We have found evidence that people with Alzheimer's who have systemic infections, such as chest or urine infections, are more likely to have faster decline in memory and thinking and more severe symptoms."

Prof Perry added that the findings will be used to provide a new way of developing treatments.

He continued: "If this process is key to driving diseases like Alzheimer's, then keeping it in check could be a way to slow down the disease in people."

Dr Eric Karran, head of Research at Alzheimer's Research UK, added that the need for effective treatments has never been greater.

"It is promising to see that observations made in the clinic are being followed up with more detailed molecular analysis," he said. "We hope that further research will pinpoint culprit proteins involved in inflammation that could be used as a target for treatment development.

"With half a million people in the UK living with Alzheimer's, the need for effective treatments has never been greater."

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Difference between males and females

By **Adam Flinn**
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MALES have more to gain than females from mating with additional partners, according to researchers at Oxford University.

The theory is known as Bateman's principles, and researchers applied this to populations of red junglefowl, the wild ancestor of the domestic chicken.

They carefully recorded all mating events between the junglefowl and assigned parentage to each offspring, to test the relationship between reproductive and mating success.

"Bateman's principles state that males are more variable than females in the number of offspring they produce and number of sexual partners," said Dr Tom Pizzari, one of the research team.

"This leads to a stronger relationship between offspring and number of partners in males than in females.

"In other words, males gain more reproductive success by mating with additional partners than females do.

"This difference is explained by the fact that males produce orders of magnitude more sperm than there are eggs are available for fertilisation, so their reproductive success is strongly limited by egg availability.

"Females on the other hand tend to produce a smaller number of larger eggs, and generally mating with additional males does not influence the number of eggs that a female can afford to produce."

But the study was not without its challenges, which Dr Pizzari explained further.

He said: "Previous studies did not measure mating behaviours, but simply inferred who mates with whom based on percentage of the offspring.

"This approach however misses out all those mating events, which failed to result in fertilisation.

"One must also be very careful about how to interpret a positive relationship between reproductive success and mating success in females.

"One possibility is that females genuinely increase the number of offspring produced by mating with additional males.

"Another is that females that are inherently more fertile are more attractive to males and so end up with more partners."

Winning apps to benefit Brookes' students

THE winners of an Oxford Brookes competition to improve the student experience by creating apps have been chosen, and will be made available on the university's website.

This year's competition follows a similar contest that ran in 2012, and was open to students, staff and to those at Brookes' Associate College Partner institutions.

Teena Bowes' word count app, Jaymi Patel's library catalogue app, Kate Ringham's app for booking office hours, Fabrizio Rossi's assignment calendar app, Miguel Vilares' Brookes social network app and Tom Wilford's question app for lectures were selected as this year's winning entries.

The winning apps were chosen by Professor John Raftery, pro vice-chancellor for student experience.

He said: "This competition gave our students and staff the opportunity to create apps that will truly benefit the community at Oxford Brookes.

"Giving students that chance makes sense as they're the ones with first-hand experience of what it's like studying here.

"Many great ideas were submitted this year and choosing the winners was a challenge, but once developed we'll have some apps that will really improve the experience of students."

To see the apps already available, go to www.obis.brookes.ac.uk/mobile/index.

• *Professor Raftery with the six competition winners*

New CPS chief prosecutor in Oxfordshire

THE Crown Prosecution Service in Thames and Chiltern has appointed a new Chief Crown Prosecutor (CCP) to cover Oxfordshire and four other counties.

Adrian Foster started in the role earlier this year, while the previous CCP Baljit Ubhey OBE has moved into the same position in London.

Qualifying as a barrister and beginning work as a legal trainee in 1993, Adrian went on to prosecute in Marylebone and West London before leading the Blackfriars Crown Court Team.

He moved to Gloucestershire in 2002 as Head of the Trials Unit, becoming the area's CCP in 2006.

"I feel greatly privileged to have been appointed to lead CPS Thames and Chiltern," said Adrian.

"I joined the CPS as a legal trainee 20 years ago because I wanted to make decisions that would deliver justice, and I'll be doing just that as I oversee prosecutions across the area.

"The work we do is tremendously important to safeguarding our communities by ensuring that the right defendant is prosecuted for the right offence at the right time.

"We are there to make sure that every victim or witness has the confidence and support to give their very best evidence to the court."

'Pure luck no one was killed'

A MAN who was caught driving at 84mph in a 30mph zone in thick fog during the morning rush hour has been banned from driving for 12 months and ordered to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work.

Edward Henbrow, 29, of The Green, Horspath, was caught by police driving at excessive speed on Cuddesdon Road, Horspath, on January 21 this year.

He pleaded guilty to dangerous driving at Oxford Magistrates' Court on February 28, and was sentenced on March 21 at the same court.

On top of the driving ban and unpaid work, Henbrow was also ordered to pay £85 costs and a £60 victim surcharge.

Investigating officer PC Steve Moses said: "This sort of driving will not be tolerated on our roads and Thames Valley Police will seek prosecution of any drivers who flout the law.

"It was by pure luck that someone was not seriously injured or killed during this incident, especially when you bear in mind the poor weather conditions, location, time of day and the speed involved."

Do you have a story to share with our readers?

Contact the Newsdesk on **01235 516930**

or email **news@oxfordjournal.co.uk**

'Giving What We Can' reaches $250m mark

AN OXFORD-BASED society has reached $250million in pledges after just four years, which will be used to help end global poverty.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Giving What We Can encourages people to donate at least 10 per cent of their income to carefully chosen charities that work towards relieving suffering in the developing world.

It was founded in December 2009 by Dr Toby Ord, a research fellow in the Oxford Martin School, and boasts over 450 members.

A major donation of $75million was recently made by American philanthropist Jim Greenbaum, which helped the society reach this latest milestone.

Dr Ord said: "I'm delighted that Jim Greenbaum has chosen to make this pledge, and it's fantastic that so many others have also donated to some of the world's most effective charities.

"Giving What We Can received a considerable amount of media attention in early 2013, and since then we have expanded our membership, staff, and reached a number of important milestones.

"We have received several major donations to help with the running of Giving What We Can, including £90,000 from art dealer Fred Mulder and £120,000 over the next three years from financier Luke Ding."

The charity is part of the Centre for Effective Altruism, a social movement that applies evidence and reason to working out the most effective ways to improve the world.

Mr Greenbaum first heard about effective altruism during a talk by moral philosopher Peter Singer, which encouraged him to make the donation.

He said: "I realised for the first time that the approach I had been taking towards philanthropy had a name, and that I should be trying to encourage more effective altruism in the world.

"The reason I decided to make my pledge to Giving What We Can was simple. For 15 years I had already been doing what they were suggesting, and I wanted to encourage others to make similar pledges."

Austen descendant set to establish literary foundation

A DESCENDANT of author Jane Austen is launching a literacy foundation in Oxford next month, in collaboration with the World Literacy Summit 2014.

Caroline Jane Knight, the last of the Austen family to be born and raised in Jane's former home of Chawton, Hampshire, will host the foundation's first event in the Holywell Music Room on April 16.

She will share anecdotes, family photos and private artefacts from Chawton during the evening, to give an insight into her relationship with her famous great aunt.

"I am so proud of my great aunt Jane and her enduring legacy," said Caroline. "I am delighted to be establishing a foundation in her honour. Partnering the World Literacy Summit 2014 gives me the ideal platform to raise awareness to support literacy projects close to my heart."

David Perrin, chief executive officer of the summit, said: "Caroline is an engaging, articulate and witty communicator.

"We are delighted that she has chosen to deliver her inaugural address alongside the summit this year."

Tickets cost £24, and the event runs from 10.30am until 12.30pm. To book, go to www.eventbrite.com.au and search for 'Austen'.

• *Caroline Jane Knight speaks about her great aunt Jane Austen in Oxford next month*

News Bites

Woman injured after sex attack in city centre

A WOMAN in her twenties was left with facial injuries and a possible fractured nose following a sex assault in Oxford in the early hours of Saturday morning.

At around 2am, the woman was assaulted by a man in the Plush Lounge, Park End Street, when he touched her inappropriately and struck her seven times on the face and head.

The offender had olive skin, dark hair, and was around 5ft 7ins tall.

Designated investigator Nhlalo Skosana, from Oxford CID, said: "This incident took place in the dance floor and so people would have seen the female being attacked.

"We are doing everything to catch this offender and so I urge anyone with information to contact us immediately."

Anyone with information about the assault is asked to call 101. Alternatively, contact Crimestoppers.

You're satisfied

OXFORDSHIRE'S household waste recycling centres have an overall satisfaction rating of 92 per cent, according to figures released by the county council.

More than 2,400 people took part in the survey, which also said that the proportion of people who were satisfied or very satisfied with the service they received was nearly 70 per cent.

Cllr David Nimmo-Smith, cabinet member for environment, said: "It is great to know that the people who use these facilities regard them so highly."

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City landlord fined over house neglect

AN OXFORD landlord has been fined over £6,000 after city council officers found his property in a poor state of repair.

William Edwards failed to attend Oxford Magistrates Court last week, and was fined his absence.

Edwards applied for his Dene Road property to be a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) last April but the council declined, saying he was considered not to be a fit and proper person.

After entering the property, officers found the smoke alarm was not in working order, there was no handrail to the staircase and two ground floor windows were rotted to excess.

Officers have also never received a copy of the electrical installation or gas safety certificate.

Edwards was fined £1,000 for failing to licence a HMO, £5,000 for the defects, £100 victim surcharge and £350 in costs.

Cllr Ed Turner, deputy leader of Oxford City Council, said: "The council has a responsibility to help protect the vulnerable and ensure people who are renting do not live in these conditions. The team are working hard to find those landlords who think they can evade the system."

Over half 'not happy' with flood response

MORE than half of Oxfordshire residents were not satisfied with the government's response to the floods, according to a Climate Coalition survey.

The coalition, made up of Oxfam, the RSPB, Christian Aid, Greenpeace, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) and Friends of the Earth, released the figures following a demonstration in Westminster last week.

According to the survey, 54 per cent of people in the county were unhappy with the response to the floods, and only 15 per cent think the government has done enough to limit climate change.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Luke Gibson, 24, is a charity worker from Oxford whose home was inundated by the floods earlier this year.

He said: "For two weeks in January, my house in Oxford turned into an island surrounded by two feet of water. It took me 15 minutes to walk out 100 yards, wading through knee-high water and debris to get to and from work every day.

"Then the flood water got mixed with sewage, making leaving the house extremely unpleasant, and the constant battle to stack sandbags higher and higher soon took its toll."

The release of the survey coincided with a flood summit, held by Oxfordshire politicians last Friday to discuss how to deal with flooding in the future.

At last week's summit, local politicians and officials gave their backing to the creation of a Western Conveyance Channel to take water away from Oxford.

Cllr Rodney Rose, deputy leader of Oxfordshire County Council, said: "I am confident that the channel would greatly reduce the risk of flooding in Oxford, and the knock on impact on the wider Oxfordshire economy.

"The main issue is cost, and I needed to be convinced that the benefits justify the price tag.

"But if we don't back it now, there may not be a chance for several years and who knows what funding will be available then.

"It could be now or never.

"The hard work of raising the cash for this scheme starts now."

• *Local politicians met last week for a flood summit*

JR gets maternity investment

OXFORD'S John Radcliffe Hospital is set to receive over £300,000 in funding, as part of improvements to be made to maternity care nationally.

Maternity minister Dr Dan Poulter MP announced that £10million will be awarded to healthcare trusts across the country as part of a government drive to create more homely environments for women and babies. Money given to the John Radcliffe will be used for new birthing pools and two family rooms for women with mental health issues.

Dr Poulter said: "This investment in maternity care is already making a big difference to families, with more choice and a better environment where women can give birth.

"It has been targeted to the areas we know need it the most."

PM and family do their bit for Sport Relief

PRIME Minister David Cameron, his wife Samantha and their children were among the hundreds of runners completing the Sport Relief Mile at Cutteslowe Park in Oxford on Sunday.

They joined in with around one million others across the country to raise money for poor and vulnerable people in the UK and worldwide.

Mr Cameron said: "Sport Relief brings together some of the best things about Britain.

"We are a great sporting nation but also one of the most generous countries when it comes to contributing to good causes.

"This is the third time I have run the Sport Relief mile and I am delighted to have taken part in such a fantastic event that is bringing people across the UK together to get active, raise money and change lives."

Sport Relief's chief executive Kevin Cahill said: "It's lovely to see the Prime Minister doing a Sport Relief mile with his family.

"That's what it's all about – everyone getting involved together, even the children.

"It's one of the things I love most about Sport Relief, that everyone can have a go."

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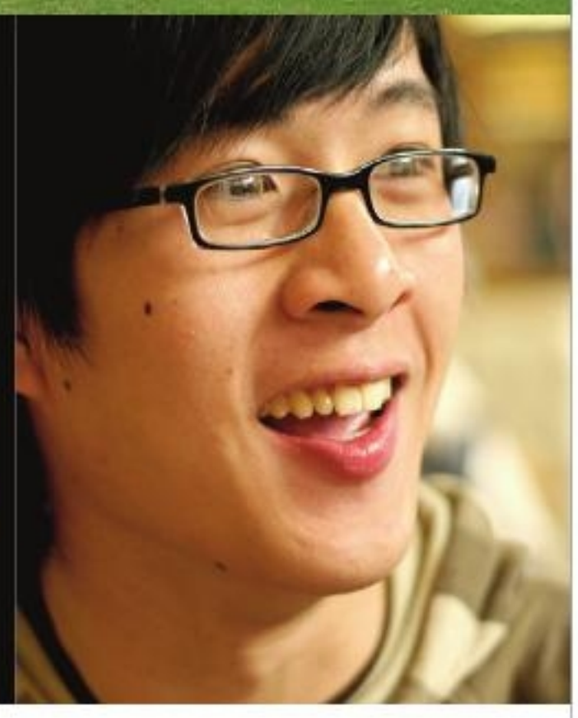

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Oxford parents serve up treat!

PARENTS from South Oxford who have compiled a community cookbook are now raising funds so 750 copies can be published and sold in the area.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

The 'Eat Me!' cookbook has been written by parents who were shocked to hear of a British Nutrition Foundation report that stated 29 per cent of primary school children thought cheese came from plants.

As a result, the proceeds of the cookbook will be used to fund food education projects at Lake Street Playgroup, Grandpoint Nursery School, and New Hinksey and St Ebbe's Primary Schools.

Oxford-based businesses Café Loco and Environmental Resources Management (ERM) have already contributed, and the parents are now calling for more to help.

Phoebe Hart, one of the 'Eat Me!' team, said: "We are delighted with the support we have received from Café Loco and ERM which makes the project really viable.

"We are now looking for other local businesses to get involved and help reach our target to ensure we are printed and ready to go for the first Spring Fair at Lake Street Playgroup in May.

"Each of the settings has a wish list of projects they would like to run with the money we raise, including re-connecting children with where their food comes from and teaching about the importance of reducing food waste.

"We simply can't let them down."

Eighty recipes have been chosen to feature in the cookbook, which aims to reflect the cultural diversity of the city through its tagline: "A culinary journey through South Oxford."

It has been compiled through word of mouth, with the parents being able to source professional illustrators, editors and photographers who were happy to help with its production.

To ensure the cookbooks will be ready for May, the group needs all donations to be made by April 28.

For more information about donating to the cookbook, email Phoebe Hart at eatmeoxford@gmail.com.

• ***Money raised from the 'Eat Me!' cookbook will fund food education projects for children in Oxford***

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News Bites

School games

OXFORD'S schools will join others from across the county for the Oxfordshire Sainsbury's School Games Spring Festival next Wednesday, taking place in Abingdon.

Around 1,500 young athletes will take part in 33 competitions at Abingdon School, Tilsley Park, White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre and The Manor Preparatory School.

Chris Freeman, managing director of the Oxfordshire Sports Partnership, said: "The festival programme provides the foundation to develop a habit of physical activity for life."

City park survey

OXFORD City Council is consulting with residents about the city's parks and open spaces, by asking what people think about them.

Park rangers will be completing surveys in the parks with visitors, to be used in future business plans and to support grant applications.

Cllr Mark Lygo said: "By taking a short amount of time to complete these surveys, you can directly shape the future of your favourite areas."

You be the judge

OXFORD Castle is re-enacting a case from the 18th century this Easter half term, allowing visitors to play the role of judge and jury.

People will judge Mary Blandy, who is on trial for the murder of her father. Running from April 5 - 20, adult tickets cost £9.95 and children can get in for £6.95.

Specialist autism school set to open this year

A SCHOOL dedicated to young people with autism is set to open on the outskirts of Oxford.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

LVS (Licensed Victuallers' School) Oxford, which will be based at Begbroke Priory, will be open to students from September.

The converted priory will provide daily and weekly boarding, with a Monday to Friday residential option.

LVS Oxford will become the Licensed Trade Charity's second specialist school after the success of LVS Hassocks in Surrey.

Sarah Sherwood, director of Special Education Needs, says LVS Oxford is designed to give 11 to 19-year-olds on the autism spectrum a platform for the future.

"The ethos is education for employability, so our learners are able to take up employment when they leave us or go on to further education," she explained.

"We will broadly follow the national curriculum.

"At 14, we work with the learners, their families and the education authorities, and look at what we think that young person's pathway is going to be in to adulthood.

"We then get the appropriate courses in place."

The school will have an IT suite, library, and a teaching kitchen to support an NVQ in catering.

Fees per annum are set at £37,500 for daily boarding and £57,600 for residential.

Ms Sherwood explained that if a student has a statement of special educational needs, the fees will be paid for by the local authority.

"The local authority, usually, funds 100 per cent of the fees," she said.

"We do have some parents at the moment who are able to pay the fees but it is outside the remit of many families."

The fees pay for the ability to have small classes of eight students, with a teacher and learning support assistant.

LVS Oxford will also use a speech and language therapist, occupational therapist, specialist teachers and have the ability to support specific dietary requirements.

Ton-up for trade scheme

A TRADING Standards scheme that gives businesses a stamp of approval to protect against rogue traders is celebrating after recruiting its 100th member.

The Buy with Confidence scheme accepted Eagle Plastering and Home Improvements as its 100th business, after they approached Oxfordshire County Council for accreditation.

Businesses who are approved receive a Buy with Confidence logo, which can be used on business documentation and advertising material, while a list of approved businesses can be looked at online.

Richard Webb, manager of the council's Trading Standards team, said: "We are delighted to have approved Eagle Plastering and we welcome the company to our Buy with Confidence list.

"Being part of the scheme gives businesses a seal of approval from us as they can demonstrate that they have spent the time and effort to seek out approval from Trading Standards.

"Part of the reason Buy with Confidence was set up was to provide people with an approved list of traders so residents could feel confident in using those firms on it.

"It also deals a solid blow to those rogue traders who try and drum up business via deceitful and criminal methods."

Businesses who want to find out more about the scheme should go to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk.

• Richard Webb (left) and Mark Eagle, owner of Eagle Plastering and Home Improvements

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Home style

Advertising Feature

Spring fresh homes...

The first day of spring is finally on the horizon, and it's the perfect time to freshen up our homes. Gabrielle Fagan finds simple ways to give rooms an affordable facelift.

By Gabrielle Fagan

WE'RE finally leaving winter behind, yet our homes can look as though they're still suffering from its effects. Thankfully, a few changes, small but significant, can spruce things up.

"First go outside, then walk back through your front door with fresh eyes to identify things that could be tidier or more cheerful," advises Amanda Fox, creative director of homeware and gift specialists, The Handpicked Collection.

"Have fun by investing in a set of colourful pegs for hanging coats, or identify something you can paint a bright colour.

"Do you fancy bright yellow banisters or perhaps an emerald green door frame? If it's a small job, you'll probably only need a few tester pots, rather than a whole litre can of paint."

It's all too easy to get used to cluttered surfaces, especially in the kitchen, so she suggests making a clean sweep and storing away all but the essentials and allowing attractive items, like quirky mismatched crockery or sleek designer gadgets, to star.

Take a similar approach in living areas, by collecting decorative items in one place, deciding which work well together, and then redistributing them in different arrangements throughout the house.

"Try to mix-match heights, sizes, textures and colours to make them visually appealing and they'll look new and different," says Fox.

"Similarly, take down pictures and try each one in a different position. You'll be surprised how fresh existing artworks can look with different light on them and a change of surrounding environment."

Finally, plump up sofa cushions, fling windows wide open for at least 30 minutes a day, and drape a colourful cloth over a table and make fruit a centrepiece.

"A glass vase filled with zesty, colourful lemons and limes whose aroma will scent the room is a stylist's favourite trick," she says.

"Most of these changes won't cost a thing but they'll have the effect of putting a spring in your step every time you go indoors!"

So in time for March 20 and the arrival of the new season, check out the experts' suggestions for spring room projects...

Stairway to heaven

Stairs can be taken for granted when it comes to redecorating and may merely get routinely repainted.

Yet a complete replacement staircase, or even simply replacing the spindles, stair baluster and newel posts, can be hugely effective and transform a hallway.

Neville Johnson is one specialist company who will completely replace a staircase, from £2,000 (www.nevillejohnson.co.uk). Richard Burbidge has a wide variety of stair-part systems, rails, pots and spindles, including contemporary versions in glass and metal. A basic kit starts from £300 for an average staircase of 13 treads. In many cases this is a DIY project which can be completed in under a weekend (www.stairproject.co.uk).

Window on the world

Sitting in a comfy chair basking in glorious spring sunshine pouring through an adjacent window is an easy way to relax.

"Rejuvenate your window space with textiles, plants, vases and lamps, then pull up a chair, have a good book handy and you've got your very own sunshine haven," says Aisha Gibson at Ikea.

"Sheer curtains allow sunlight to filter evenly through a room, and if you add layers of textiles in different patterns and materials you can give your space a textured, layered look.

"Like jewellery, curtain finials complete your window dressing and make it even more elegant, playful and personal. The best part is that you can easily change them whenever you feel you want some variation.

"Make your own tassel with a length of leftover fabric. Fold it, cut into strips, then roll and bind with decorative ribbon and use the ribbon to act as a tie back."

Snap to it

Family occasions are great photo opportunities but it's a visual opportunity lost if they

• *Left: A new staircase such as this Fusion glass staircase from Richard Burbridge can change the feel of two areas of the house. Below: Altering a few key elements can make a remarkable difference. All photos: PA Photo/Handout.*

Home style

Advertising Feature

• A table and chairs are often the dominant feature of the room, so it makes sense to consider them as prime opportunities for change. PA Photo/Handout.

later languish on laptops.

Producing a collage of photos or a themed selection in compartmentalised picture frames is a brilliant way to display them and keep memories fresh.

Create a gallery on one wall with a group of frames, maybe interspersed with favourite posters, and you'll have a talking point in any room.

Dining delight

Easter's on the horizon and celebration meals or informal gatherings will be on the calendar.

"Springtime is all about giving interiors an uplift," says Claire Hornby, interior stylist at Barker & Stonehouse.

"Breathe new life into a jaded dining area by introducing a few key accessories in bold, zesty colours.

"Update your look with brightly upholstered chairs or new chair cushions, and a statement rug to zone the area.

"Pot plants hung on hooks, and vases of cut flowers, will add vital touches of greenery."

Alternatively, recreate informal al fresco dining in a kitchen or conservatory with a simple bistro-style table and chair set. Use seat pads for comfort, keep styling simple and display freshly picked garden foliage in pots or containers like jam jars or milk bottles.

Spring scent

Just the scent of a warm, spring day can lift spirits. Even if the weather doesn't co-operate, evoke the atmosphere with fragranced candles conjuring smells of cut grass or flowers.

"Treat yourself to a really good scented candle and burn it for 10 minutes each day to fill the room with floral, fresh fragrances," says Amanda Fox.

"It'll last for months if you're frugal with it, making the treat perfectly justifiable. Also, cut up bars of fragranced soap, popped into drawers and linen cupboards, will make bedding and clothes smell sweet."

Patio perfect

It can be depressing staring out at garden furniture that's been battered by downpours and winter frost.

Instead of buying new, give it a revamp. Choose a dry day to repaint chairs and the table.

If necessary, rub down with coarse sandpaper or a wire brush to remove any flakes or rust. Wash the table and chairs thoroughly with hot, soapy water to remove dirt and grease. Rinse well with clean water and allow to dry.

Spread newspaper in a well-ventilated area or preferably outside. Apply two or three fine coats of PlastiKote Outdoor satin spray paint in the colour of your choice, allowing 10-15 minutes between each coat. The furniture will be touch-dry in 30-50 minutes and thoroughly dry in two to three hours

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There is a typical country station and signal box, and a recreation of Brunel's original broad gauge railway including a broad gauge Transfer Shed dating from 1857. The Relics Display contains an impressive range of smaller items covering all aspects of the history and operation of the Great Western Railway.

Enjoy the opportunity to travel in 1930s carriages behind a Great Western steam engine on the main demonstration line or in a 1940s Railcar operating on a sleepy rural branch line. Travel back in time on Brunel's broad gauge railway in style with 'Fire Fly', a replica of the original locomotive built in 1840.

The Science, Learning & Railways exhibition, housed in two railway coaches, includes many interactive exhibits designed to interest and involve visitors in science and engineering. There is also a genuine WWII Air Raid Shelter experience.

The Gift Shop stocks a wide range of railway related products to suit people of all ages. Meals and drinks can be purchased from the Refreshment Room. There is also a Picnic Area where you can have a picnic and watch the trains go by.

Didcot Railway Centre is situated at Didcot Parkway rail station, served by First Great Western Trains from London, the Thames Valley, Oxford, etc. It is on the A4130, signed from the M4 (junction 13) and A34. The Centre is open every weekend and most school holidays from 10.30am to 5pm on steamdays and 10.30am to 4pm on other days. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

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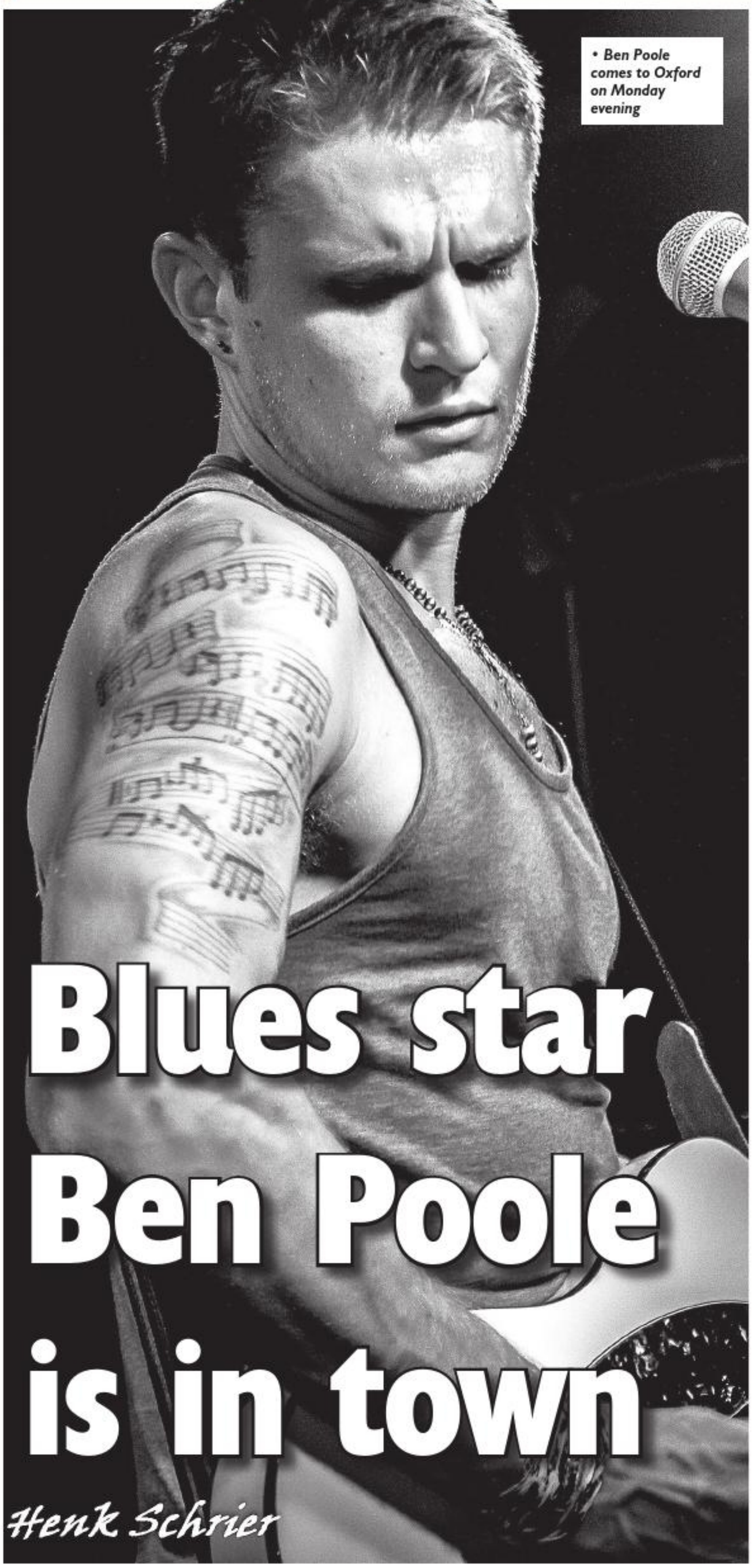

• Ben Poole comes to Oxford on Monday evening

Blues star Ben Poole is in town

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Susan Boyle

BRITAIN'S Got Talent star Susan Boyle returns to the stage with her very first nationwide live tour, which is coming to Oxford's New Theatre on Saturday. Susan will be singing a range of songs including 'I Dreamed a Dream', 'Wild Horses' and 'Somewhere Over The Rainbow', plus plenty of other tracks throughout the course of the evening. The show begins at 7.30pm.

The Mikado

GILBERT and Sullivan's comic masterpiece The Mikado is staged at the Oxford Playhouse tomorrow and Saturday. Stunning costumes, expert singing and a unique brand of humour promises for an entertaining performance for Gilbert and Sullivan enthusiasts and newcomers alike.

For more details on booking, go to www.oxfordplayhouse.com.

Story of death

TWO knackermen, a horse, a gun and a tiny metropolis full of death make up the plot in For Their Own Good, coming to the Burton Taylor Studio on Monday and Tuesday.

The show combines puppetry, new writing and documentary material as it tells the moving and darkly comic tale of the only certainty in life – death.

Ben: 'It's not just blues'

BLUES guitarist Ben Poole brings his spring tour to Oxford on Monday, as he prepares to record his new album due to be released later this year.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Ben and his four-piece band will play a range of their music including from the debut release 'Let's Go Upstairs', as well as new material that could feature on the upcoming album.

He has previously been nominated at the 2011 British Blues Awards and also represented the UK at the 2012 European Blues Challenge in Berlin, where he came third out of 19 entries.

And in the last few years, Ben has been touring heavily across the globe, where he has found critical acclaim in the Netherlands, Switzerland and Germany.

"I've branched out into other territories because it's quite difficult in the UK, but I do well in those places," Ben said.

"When people try and put me in a box they usually say blues, but it's not just blues. There are elements of rock and pop, kind of a modern twist on the blues genre really.

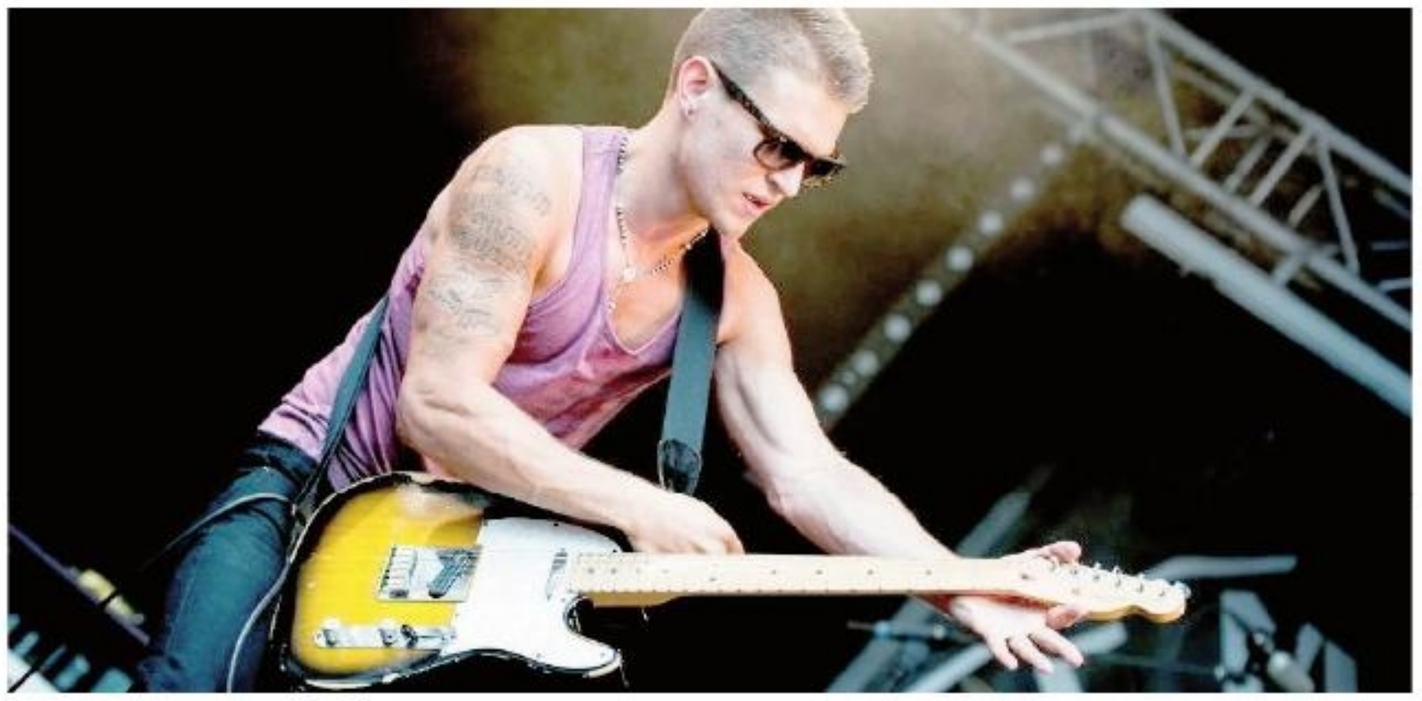
"It's very guitar-based, and more and more of my own stuff is coming into the set these days."

This show will see a selection of songs that could feature on the new album, which Ben says will be slightly different to 'Let's Go Upstairs'.

"For the last album I really concentrated on the song-writing side of things and maybe lost a little bit of the guitar element, so we're trying to bring that back a little bit," he said.

"I've always been known as a guitar player, but it's trying to be recognised as more than just that which is a constant battle."

Ben performs at the Haven Club on Monday, and doors open at 8pm.



• Ben Poole comes to Oxford on Monday (Picture by Marco Van Rooijen)

The Visitors

THE Barney Norris play Visitors, set in a farmhouse at the edge of Salisbury Plain, is performed at the North Wall Arts Centre on Wednesday.

Visitors takes a haunting but beautiful look at the way lives can slip by, and is the latest collaboration between playwright Norris and director Alice Hamilton following 'At First Sight' and 'Fear of Music'.

Go to www.thenorthwall.com for more information.

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GROWING PAINS

Increasing numbers of people are living with the potentially devastating consequences of multiple sclerosis.

Just last year Dancing With the Stars contestant Jack Osbourne was diagnosed with the debilitating neurological disease, and now new research suggests the number of people living with the condition in the UK increased by around 2.4% a year between 1990 and 2010, to 127,000.

The last estimate of the number of people with multiple sclerosis (MS), which disrupts the transmission of signals in the central nervous system (CNS) and can affect balance, co-ordination and vision, was 100,000.

On the face of it, it's a huge increase, but the Dundee University study also found that the number of people being diagnosed with the illness is falling - suggesting more people are living longer with the condition.

Certainly, the research also found that MS mortality rates fell by about 3% per year.

Sue Farrington, director for education and communication at the Multiple Sclerosis Society, explains that MS is estimated to potentially reduce a person's lifespan by no more than five years.

"Generally, you don't die from MS. What you might be looking at is your quality of life being reduced," she says.

"This is a condition that people have for life. That's quite a burden to carry."

It's a burden that Jack Osbourne, who has the most common form of the disease, relapsing remitting MS, found he was carrying last year, just weeks after the birth of his first child.

There are four different forms of MS, and the type Osbourne has means sufferers have relapses (an unpredictable flare-up of symptoms) followed by remissions, where symptoms can sometimes disappear completely.

The 28-year-old son of Sharon and Ozzy Osbourne talked about the impact of his diagnosis on UK TV for the first time this month, when he fronted the MS Society's BBC Lifeline Appeal.

He said: "I think the scariest moment in my life was when I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. I lost the vision in my right eye, and came to find out that the numbness in my legs from 18 months earlier was a result of the same thing.

"MS is unpredictable, which means I never know how or when it's going to affect me. Whether [I have] problems with my vision, numbness, fatigue - that's just something my family and I now have to think about every day."

He admits the last year has been tough, but added: "I now know that life doesn't end when you're diagnosed with MS.

"I'd just become a father so I was determined to not be beaten by it.

But learning to adapt can be a real challenge."

MS occurs when a protein called myelin, which surrounds nerve fibres and helps them conduct electrical impulses, is damaged or destroyed. This disrupts the nerves' ability to conduct electrical impulses to and from the brain.

In MS, myelin is lost in multiple areas, leaving scar tissue called sclerosis which produces the symptoms of the disease.

Symptoms vary depending on which part of the CNS is affected, but the disease can cause loss of vision (usually only in one eye), muscle stiffness leading to uncontrolled muscle movements, difficulties with balance and co-ordination, and extreme fatigue.

"MS affects different people in different ways," explains Farrington.

"For some people it may be their sight that's the first indicator there's something wrong, or it may be that their speech becomes slurred, or they have problems with their mobility."

The condition used to be difficult to diagnose because symptoms are so varied, but the advent of MRI scanning has improved diagnosis.

However, while it's known what happens inside the body to cause the symptoms of MS, it's not known why it happens or what the specific causes are.

"It would be wonderful if we could just identify one thing that caused MS, but it's very complex," says Farrington.

It's thought to be an autoimmune condition, as the body is attacking itself when myelin is destroyed, and recent evidence suggests some people may have a genetic predisposition to develop MS.

However, Farrington says: "We think there's some sort of link to genes, but it's probably a combination of genes and other things, as not everyone with the genes will develop MS.

"There are a number of environmental factors too. MS is more common the further away you live from the Equator, and there's growing research that suggests a lack of vitamin D could be a factor in causing it."

Research is also looking into the role of viruses in triggering the disease, but no single virus has been identified as a definite contributor. However, there's growing evidence that the Epstein Barr virus, which is commonly caught in childhood, may act as a trigger.

A number of studies have also found smoking appears to increase some people's risk of developing MS, although it's unclear why.

The search goes on for a cause and a cure, although in the meantime, treatments for relapsing remitting MS, which often eventually develops into another type of the disease, secondary progressive MS, have greatly improved.

Disease-modifying drugs are used to slow the progression of the disease and reduce the number of relapses. However, the drugs are not suitable for all people with MS.

Physiotherapy, oxygen treatment and diet and exercise are also thought to help manage symptoms.

But Farrington is cautious about the effects of diet and exercise on MS.

"We wouldn't say that if you eat well and exercise it'll help, because we don't know that yet," she says.

"Everyone needs to lead a healthy lifestyle because of its impact on wellbeing, but there's no proof that if you adopt a healthy lifestyle it will minimise your MS.

"There are some people who would say it has done, and that's great for them, but our researchers say that unfortunately, at the moment, there's no conclusive proof.

"MS is just so uncertain and unpredictable."

Neil Kemsley, chairman of the MS National Therapy Centres (MSNTC), a national charity which supports 56 member centres across the UK and funded the University of Dundee study, says he believes a good diet, exercise, oxygen treatment and physiotherapy can make a "huge" difference to the course of MS.

"There are plenty of people who've had an MS diagnosis for 10-20 years who are still able to walk and live life relatively well, probably because they've taken control of their condition and done something about it in terms of exercise and diet," he says.

Part of that taking control is also taking advantage of the services available at the nearest MS therapy centre, says Kemsley, whose wife has had MS for 26 years.

The centres, which rely on donations, usually provide physiotherapy, fitness training, oxygen therapy and complementary therapies, as well as advice on diet and continence, and the opportunity to meet others with MS.

"I can't count the number of times I've heard a person in a wheelchair saying they wish they'd come to a therapy centre years before, because they probably wouldn't be in a wheelchair now," says Kemsley.

"The therapy centres are full of individuals saying 'I'm going to take charge of my life and find a community of people in the same situation, and between us we'll find ways of helping ourselves.'"

:: For more information about multiple sclerosis, visit www.mssociety.org.uk, and for more on MS Therapy Centres, visit www.msntc.org.uk

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Katy in Red

BRITISH R&B singer Katy B comes to Oxford this evening, following on from the release of her second album 'Little Red' earlier this year.

London-born Katy will be performing the latest singles '5AM' and 'Crying For No Reason' as part of the show, as well as hits from her debut release 'On a Mission'.

Further details about tonight's show are available at www.o2academyoxford.co.uk.

Comedy fest

THE Old Fire Station is host to the all-new Oxford Comedy Festival on Saturday, featuring stand-up, music, magic, improvisation and workshops during the course of the day.

Acts confirmed for the festival include 2013 Funny Women Finalist Elf Lyons, Impromptu Shakespeare and Oxford's own sketch comedy specialists The Dead Secrets.

Go to Wash!

CHILDREN'S theatre production Wash is staged at the Didcot Cornerstone on Sunday, featuring the story of a monkey who needs a good clean.

Live music is created from paraphernalia of a washing world, and uses rhythm and song specifically designed for a young audience.

Jane Austen improvised!

JANE Austen wrote hundreds of novels that have been lost for years, according to comedy performers in Austentatious, coming to the North Wall Arts Centre next Friday.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

And as a result, seven performers will be improvising a new show based on an audience suggestion and in the style of the famous 19th century author.

Visitors will be asked to come up with a show title and put their idea into a hat, before one is drawn at random and performed from scratch in a one-hour production.

Previous shows have seen suggestions including 'Pride and Predator', 'Mansfield Shark' and 'Bradford and Bingley', performed in period costume and with a live cello accompaniment.

"It's an improvised show, which means we have absolutely no idea what the plot's going to be," said Andrew Hunter Murray, one of the Austentatious performers.

"The story all comes from the title and the opening scenes, and we just go with it and try to pick a narrative out of what we're doing."

Away from improvisation, Andrew is also one of the renowned QI elves, who write the questions for the BBC panel show. In Austentatious, he is accompanied by Cariad Lloyd, Rachel Parris, Joseph Morpurgo, Amy Cooke-Hodgson, Graham Dickson and Charlotte Gittins, all of whom have been improvising for many years.

Andrew added: "Four of the seven of us were in the Oxford Imps, so that's how we first met. We all know each other quite well, which means we're comfortable with one another on stage, messing around and trying to make it difficult or provide for each other.

"Improvisation isn't as difficult as it sounds, although maybe I should say it's exceedingly difficult so everyone will be more impressed!"

Next Friday's show begins at 8pm, and more details are available at www.thenorthwall.com.

The group also return to Oxfordshire later next month with a performance at the Chipping Norton Theatre on April 26. Go to www.chippingnortontheatre.co.uk for further information.

• The cast of Austentatious are at the North Wall Arts Centre next Friday, before heading to Chipping Norton on April 26

Hart and soul of the party!

THE Reading Operatic Society present The Wedding Singer, a show packed with 1980s music and impressive dance routines, which is coming to Henley's Kenton Theatre from Wednesday.

It follows the story of rock star wannabe Robbie Hart, who is the life and soul of the party until he gets jilted at the altar, and makes every wedding as disastrous as his own thereafter.

Show times and ticket costs can be found at www.kentontheatre.co.uk.

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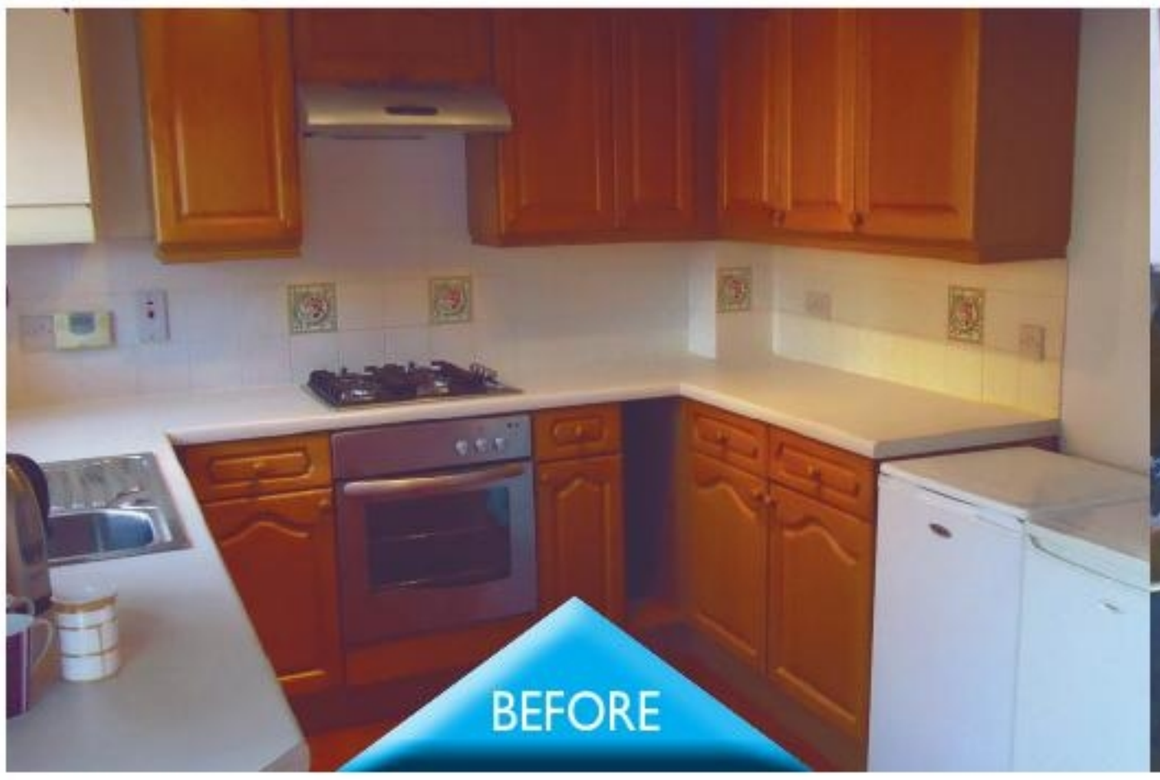

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Premier Dining	£209	£179	Banbury	07:00	21:30

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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | LISTINGS

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28 March - 29 March
Oxford Playhouse
THE MIKADO
Set in the zany world of modern fashion with stunning costumes, this unmissable evening will delight both Gilbert and Sullivan enthusiasts and those experiencing this ingenious operetta for the first time.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

29 March, 8:20pm - 11pm
The Wheatsheaf High St Oxford
GAPPY TOOTH INDUSTRIES
£4.50 on the door, cheaper at www.wegottickets.com/event/255430
20.45 Halber Mensch
21.30 Sebastian Melmoth
22.15 De'Mask Thyself"

29 March
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
HOW HIGH?
A captivating family show for children aged 4 to 9. Join Hetty as she explores the world of height and meets an extraordinary new friend, in an adventure featuring hot air balloons, lofty tree tops, and stories of giants.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

29 March - 30 March
Oxford Playhouse
ATTEMPTS ON HER LIFE
With loosely interconnected scenes ranging from the witty to the deeply disturbing, Martin Crimp's utterly compelling play was first performed at The Royal Court to critical acclaim. Attempts on Her Life is part of the 2014 Radical Thinking season, which celebrates Oxford as the home of pioneenering thinkers and ideas.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

31 March - 1 April
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
EACH OF US
Combining stunning puppetry, new writing and documentary material, the show tells a moving and darkly comic tale about the only certainty in life – death. How it's become removed from us as a process. How maybe we should reclaim it.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

1 April, 7:45pm - 9:15pm
Old School Room, St Peter's, First Turn, Wolvercote. OX2 8AQ
ANHSO - PLANTING FOR BEES IN YOUR GARDEN - DR JUDY WEBB
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Judy Webb is a botanist and entomologist interested in encouraging bees in local wildlife sites in Oxfordshire."
publicity@anhso.org.uk http://www.anhso.org.uk/

1 April - 5 April
Oxford Playhouse
TRANSLATIONS
Translations is directed by James Grieve, joint Artistic Director of Paines Plough. Celebrating its twenty first anniversary year with this Irish play, English Touring Theatre's recent visits to the Playhouse include Ghosts and The Misanthrope.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

2 April, 8pm - 9pm
The North Wall, Oxford
VISITORS
In a farmhouse at the edge of Salisbury Plain, a family is falling apart. Stephen can't put his mother into care; Arthur can't stop working. When a stranger moves in to care for Edie, the family are forced to ask: are we living the way we wanted?
www.thenorthwall.com/01865 319450

2 April, 8pm
White Horse 'Live', The Ridings, Stonesfield
DAN WALSH
Banjo maestro and singer Dan
01993 898604 www.whitehorselive.co.uk

3 April - 4 April
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
JONNY & THE BAPTISTS
A raucous new show full of songs, satire and silliness. Ahead of the 2014 European Elections, join these Comedy Award nominees as theyamuse, engage and enrage the political spectrum.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

4 April
Cornerstone, Didcot
HAZEL O'CONNOR
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www.cornerstone-arts.org

5 April - 21 April, 10am - 5:30pm
Waterperry Gardens, near Wheatley
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www.waterperrygardens.co.uk 01844 339226

5 April, 7:30pm
Oxford Town Hall, St. Aldates
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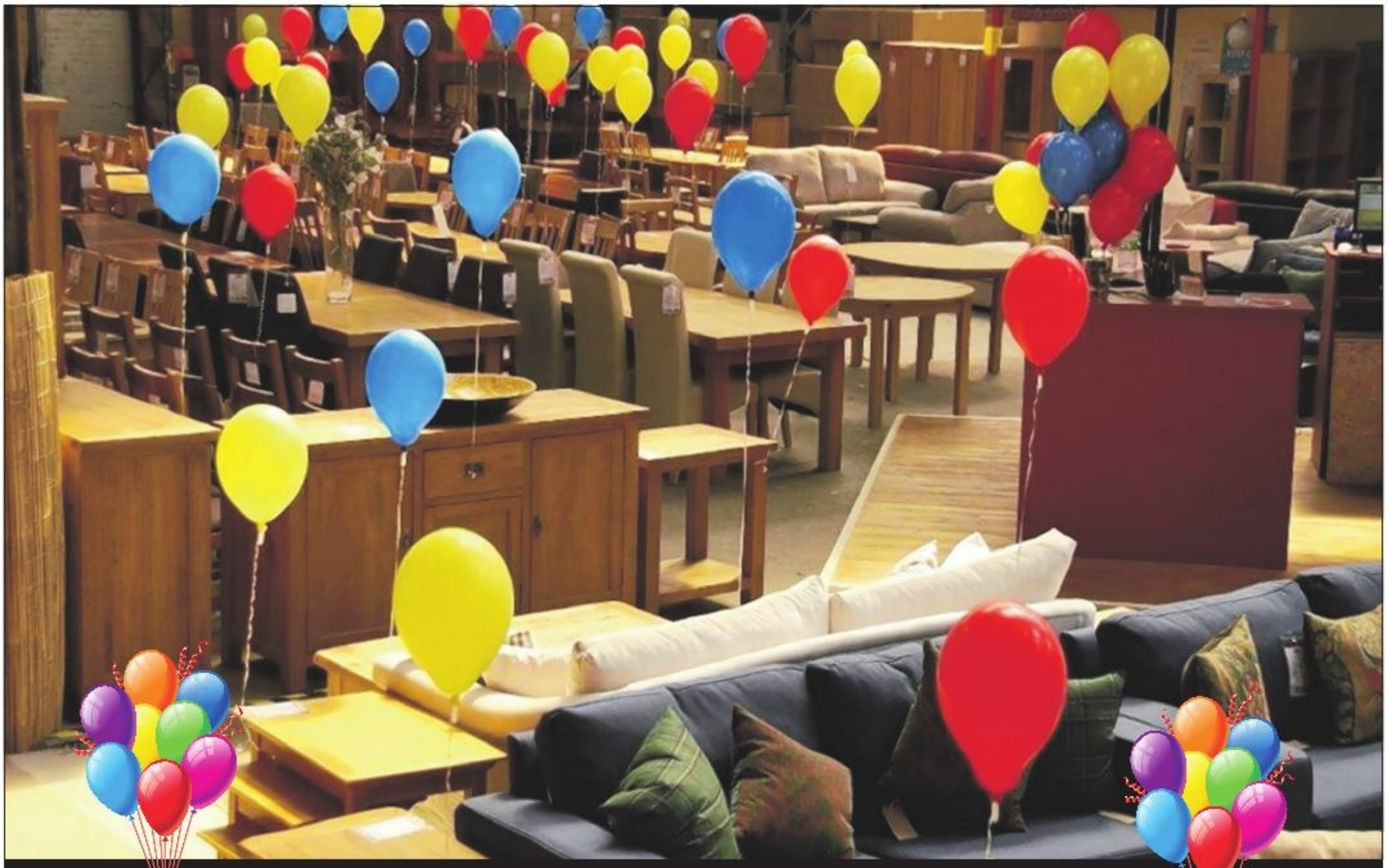

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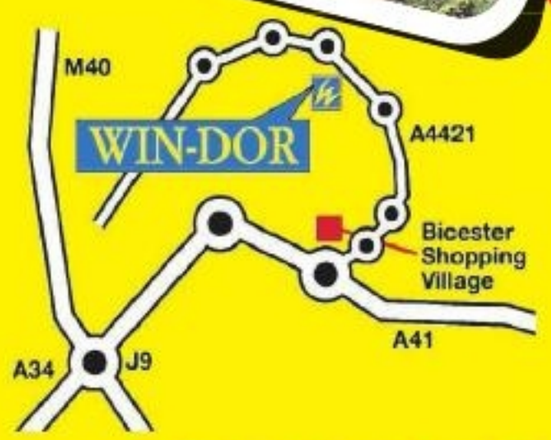

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Hyundai supporting very special evening for nation's mothers

Honouring UK's best mums

WINNERS and celebrities of the Tesco Mum of the Year awards 2014 will soon be stepping out in style thanks to Hyundai, who will support the ninth annual event for the second year running with a fleet of ix35 vehicles.

The ceremony was held on Sunday and will be televised on Channel 5 on Mother's Day (this coming Sunday).

Winning mums will be treated to a full makeover and their own Tesco Living magazine photo shoot. They will then be presented with their award in front of friends, family and celebrity guests.

Hyundai's ix35 compact SUV has already won many fans thanks to its combination of style, comfort and practicality. It is a vehicle that is as equally at home in the city as it is out of it – making it the ideal partner for family life. The ix35s will ensure that winning mums travel in style and comfort to the awards and will also be on hand to chauffeur official Tesco Mum of the Year Ambassador, Coleen Rooney, to the exclusive event.

By **Andy Allans**

Award categories and winners are as follows: Supportive Mum of the Year won by Diana Golding, Enterprising Mum of The Year won by Ranu Mehta-Radia, Charitable Mum of the Year won by Laura Young, Campaigning Mum of the Year won by Jane Plumb, Community Mum of the Year won by Lynn McManus, Achieving Mum of the Year won by Maggie Hughes, Celebrity Mum of the Year won by Dame Sarah Storey and Tesco Colleague Lifetime Achievement Award won by Pam Clarke.

Tony Whitehorn, president and CEO of Hyundai UK, said: "The inspirational women who have received these accolades really do make huge differences to the lives of others.

Debbie Chernin, Tesco Mum of the Year manager, said: "We are thrilled to have the opportunity to work with Hyundai again. Our mums deserve to be spoilt and we want the very best for them."

Established in 1967, Hyundai Motor Co. has grown into the Hyundai Motor Group, with more than two dozen auto-related subsidiaries and affiliates. Hyundai Motor - which has seven manufacturing bases outside of South Korea including Brazil, China, the Czech Republic, India, Russia, Turkey and the U.S. - sold 4.7 million vehicles globally in 2013.

Hyundai Motor, which employs over 90,000 worldwide, offers a full line-up of products including small to large passenger vehicles, SUVs and commercial vehicles.

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Hyundai has sold vehicles in the UK since 1982. In 2005, Hyundai opened its own UK subsidiary, Hyundai Motor UK Ltd, based in High Wycombe. Since 2008, the company has risen from 21st to one of the top ten car manufacturers in the UK and last year sold a record 77,500 vehicles.

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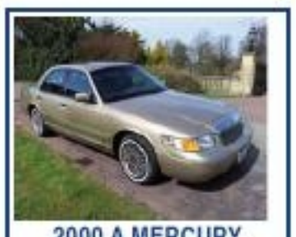

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2006 56	Ford Galaxy Zetec Tdci 7 Seats Demo+1 Turbo Diesel 6-Speed Manual 63000 Miles	£7,995
2008 08	Ford Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 16v 5dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 70325 Miles	£4,295
2007 57	Ford Fiesta Style 16v 5dr 1.4 ltr Finance Petrol 5-Speed Manual 61000 Miles	£3,995
2004 04	Ford Focus C-Max Ghia 1.8 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 79,425 Miles	£3,295
2004 53	Ford Focus C-Max 1.8 Zetec 53 Reg Petrol 5-Speed Manual 63649 Miles	£3,295
2004 04	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr Auto Petrol Automatic 76970 Miles	£2,995
2003 03	Ford Fusion 1.4 Fusion 3 5dr Petrol Semi-Automatic 45860 Miles	£2,995
2004 04	Ford Fiesta Zetec 16v 5dr 1.4 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 57045 Miles	£2,995
2004 04	Ford Focus C-Max Zetec 5dr MPV Petrol 5-Speed Manual 83808 Miles	£3,295
2006 06	Ford Transit Connect T200 L Swb NO VAT Turbo Diesel 5-Speed Manual 96440 Miles	£2,995
2005 55	Ford Fiesta Style 5dr 1.25 5dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 86126 Miles	£2,995
2003 03	Ford Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 16v 3dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 76265 Miles	£2,795
2001 Y	Ford Focus Zetec 5dr 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 83950 Miles	£2,495
2002 52	Ford Focus LX 5dr 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 82580 Miles	£2,395
1999 V	Ford Focus Zetec 5dr 1.6 AUTO Petrol Automatic 60040 Miles	£1,995
1999 S	Ford Focus LX 5dr 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 81880 Miles	£1,895
2002 52	Ford Ka Ka 3dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 41644 Miles	£1,695

HONDA

2007 07	Honda Civic 1.8 SE I-VTEC 5dr Petrol 6-Speed Manual 88620 Miles	£4,795
2001 Y	Honda Accord 2.0 I-VTEC SE Executive 5dr Petrol Automatic 151000 Miles	£495

HYUNDAI

2000 W	Hyundai Accent CDX 5dr 1.5 AUTO Petrol Automatic 35380 Miles	£1,695

KIA

2006 06	Kia Rio Zapp 5dr 1.4 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 52068 Miles	£2,995
2005 05	Kia Picanto LX 5dr 1.1 - £105 A YEAR TAX Petrol 5-Speed Manual 51470 Miles	£2,795

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2004 04	Land Rover Freelander S Station Wagon Petrol 5-Speed Manual 92146 Miles	£3,795
2003 03	Land Rover Freelander Kalahari Station Wagon1.8 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 72699 Miles	£2,695

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2006 06	Lexus RX 300 Le AutoPetrol Automatic 90000 Miles	£7,495
2005 54	Lexus RX 300 SE 3.0 AUTO - TAXED END JUNE 14 Petrol Automatic 108600 Miles	£6,495

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2001 51	Mazda MX-5 Convertible 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 84227 Miles	£2,695

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2006 56	Mercedes-Benz C Class C180 Kompressor Avantgarde SE Petrol Automatic 48000 Miles	£6,695

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2000 A	Grand Marquis All Texan Petrol Automatic 64000 Miles	£5,995

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2000 W	Rover Mini Cooper I 2 Door Saloon Petrol 48000 Miles	£5,495
2003 53	Mini Cooper 3dr 1.6Petrol 5-Speed Manual 56600 Miles	£4,495

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2010 10	Mitsubishi Lancer Ralliart Gsr 5dr HATCH Turbo 28000 Miles	£10,495
2004 04	Mitsubishi Shogun Pinin Elegance Mpi 1.8 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 68140 Miles	£3,895
2003 53	Mitsubishi Outlander 2.4 Sport SE Petrol Automatic 80860 Miles	£3,795
2005 55	Mitsubishi Colt 1.3 Elegance 5dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 69760 Miles	£2,995
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2008 57	Nissan Navara 2.5 Long Way Down Expedition dCi Dc Turbo Diesel 6-Speed Manual 84160 Miles	£10,750
2006 56	Nissan Pathfinder Sport dCi SUV Turbo Diesel 6-Speed Manual 94600 Miles	£8,795
2007 57	Nissan Note 1.6 Tekna Petrol Automatic 77465 Miles	£4,595
2003 52	Nissan Micra 1.0E 5dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 76960 Miles	£2,495
2000 W	Nissan Almera S 5dr 1.5 - TAXED END MAY 14 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 42120 Miles	£1,995
2000 W	Nissan Micra 1.0 S 3dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 68000 Miles	£1,995
2000 W	Nissan Micra 1.0 Celebration 16v 3dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 68020 Miles	£1,995

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2006 06	Peugeot 307 S 5dr 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 85490 Miles	£3,695
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2007 56	Renault MeganeDynamique VVT 1.6, Petrol 5-Speed Manual 57880 Miles	£4,495
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2005 55	Suzuki Swift GLX Vvts 5dr - TAXED TILL END AUG 14 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 82230 Miles	£3,795

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2007 07	Toyota RAV-4 XT3 D-4D 2.2 Diesel 6-Speed Manual 95050 Miles	£6,995
2005 05	Toyota RAV-4 Xt3 VVT-I 2.0 Auto g Petrol Automatic 76294 Miles	£5,495
2007 07	Toyota Auris Tr VVT-I 5dr Super Clean Petrol 5-Speed Manual 33960 Miles	£5,395
2005 05	Toyota Corolla Verso T2 VVT-I 7 SEATS Petrol Automatic 79000 Miles	£3,995
2001 Y	Toyota Previa GS 8-Seats VVT-I Petrol 5-Speed Manual 97795 Miles	£3,495
2002 52	Toyota Yaris 1.0 Colour Collection VVT-I 3dr Petrol 5-Speed Manual 58410 Mile	£2,695

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2009 59	Vauxhall Corsa Active 3dr 1.0 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 14990 Miles	£5,695
2007 07	Vauxhall Zafira Life 16v 1.6 - FINANCE AVAILABLE Petrol 5-Speed Manual 71960 Miles	£4,795
2005 55	Vauxhall Zafira Club 16v 7 SEATS Petrol 5-Speed Manual 78414 Miles	£4,395
2007 07	Vauxhall Tigra Exclusive 1.8 16v Petrol 5-Speed Manual 36175 Miles	£3,995
2005 55	Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Life 16v Twinport Petrol 5-Speed Manual 85460 Miles	£3,295
2006 06	Vauxhall Vectra VVT SRi 5dr Bargain Petrol 5-Speed Manual 107000 Miles	£2,395

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2006 56	Volkswagen Passat SE Fsi Auto Leather Petrol Automatic 47000 Miles	£6,495
2005 M	Volkswagen Golf SE1.9 TDi 5dr Turbo Diesel 5-Speed Manual 85100 Miles	£5,395
2007 07	Volkswagen Golf S 5dr 1.4 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 89670 Miles	£4,995
2003 03	Volkswagen Golf Match 5dr 1.6 Petrol 5-Speed Manual 80670 Miles	£2,995
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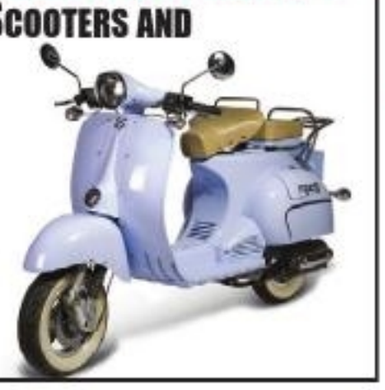

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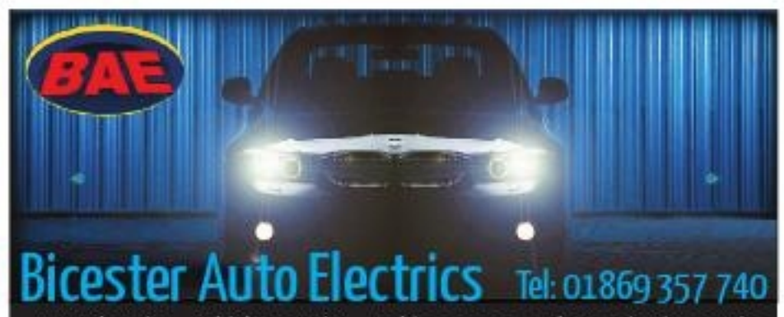

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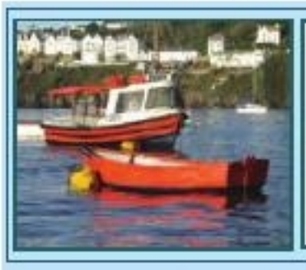

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WE HAVE TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK

New boss Waddock vows to shuffle the pack after defeat at Southend

OXFORD United's new head coach Gary Waddock says he wants to give the fans something to cheer about in the remaining seven games of the regular season.

By **Jack Johnson**

jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

The 52-year-old's first game in charge ended in a disappointing 3-0 defeat at play-off rivals Southend United on Monday night.

United are currently sixth in Sky Bet League Two, three points inside the play-offs, but 11 adrift of automatic promotion.

"The players know, I know, the fans know, and I am disappointed for the people that travelled," Waddock, who was unveiled last Saturday, told the club after Monday's loss.

"The supporters were expecting a performance.

"I want to make sure that we give the fans something back because they deserve that."

United were 2-0 down after 17 minutes as Will Atkinson finished from close range and Lee Barnard converted from the penalty spot.

Waddock's side had chances but James Constable volleyed over from a corner while Deane Smalley saw his header cleared off the line.

United were made to rue their missed opportunities as Jamar Loza shrugged Jake Wright aside and fired past Ryan Clarke with four minutes remaining.

While Clarke did his level best to keep United in the match, Waddock admitted that he will look to shuffle the pack.

"If it was not for him (Clarke) the scoreline would have been so much greater," Waddock added.

"We didn't defend well enough at all as a back four and we were not clinical enough in the final third of the pitch.

"That is two areas of the team that we need to have a look at."

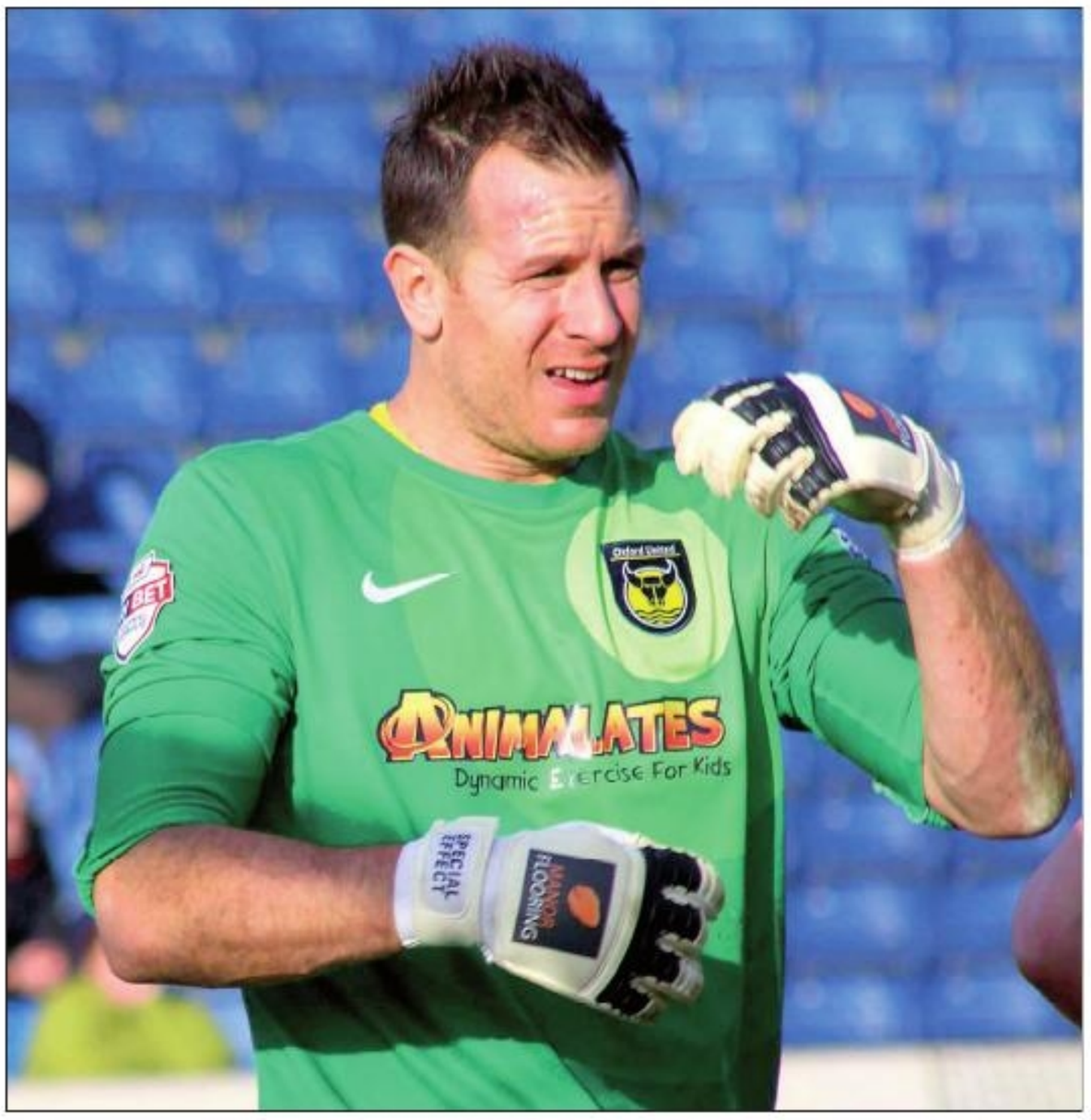
He continued: "The players that started had an opportunity.

"But there are not too many that have come out of it with any credit.

"There's some lads waiting on the sideline and their opportunity will come.

"I will pick the bones out the DVD, assess it, speak to the players once everything has died down and we will go again."

United travel to Dagenham & Redbridge this Saturday, and will be looking to record their first away win since January 18.



• *Ryan Clarke was one of very few players to make an impression on new head coach Gary Waddock during Oxford United's defeat at Southend (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

Heavy defeat leaves City in drop zone

OXFORD City remain second from bottom in the Skrill North after a heavy 4-0 defeat at Leamington on Tuesday night.

It was the second time in three days that City have suffered such a defeat, as they went down to AFC Telford United last Saturday.

While Mike Ford's men currently occupy a relegation spot and are five points from safety, they could still be saved from the drop.

Vauxhall Motors, currently 16th in the table, are rumoured to be quitting the league due to financial concerns.

However, City still have 10 games left to play, and are only three points above bottom side Workington.

The Hoops will be looking to end their two-game winless run when they welcome Guiseley to Marsh Lane this Saturday.

Ross happy with win, but urges team to correct their mistakes

LONDON Welsh stalwart and assistant coach Gordon Ross was happy with another bonus point victory despite a scrappy 29-11 win over Bedford Blues last weekend.

A fourth bonus point win in five matches keeps the Exiles second in the Greene King IPA Championship table.

Despite well taken tries from Seb Jewell (2), Tom May, and Nick Scott, Ross was aware of the below-par performance.

"We're obviously delighted to get the five points but there were a lot of mistakes from us that we're disappointed with," said the 36-year-old.

"We had a lot of dominance in the scrum and a lot of good field position but we struggled with the lineout."

The Exiles take on London Scottish this Sunday.

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